

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5 1. An apparatus for delivering scent material, comprising:
 a carrier that is movable from a scent material receiving location to
a scent delivery location;
 a scent material transfer device, associated with the scent material
receiving location, that transfers the scent material to the carrier; and
10 a scent material dispersal device, associated with scent delivery
location, that causes at least some of the scent material to be released from the
carrier.
2. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises
15 an absorbent material.
3. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises
paper.
- 20 4. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises
an elongate strip of carrier material, the apparatus further comprising:
 a supply reel, located upstream from the scent material transfer
device, that stores unused portions of the elongate strip of carrier material; and
 a take-up reel, located downstream from the scent material
25 dispersal device, that receives used portions of the elongate strip of carrier
material after the dispersal device has caused at least some the scent material
to be released from the elongate strip of carrier material.
5. An apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the carrier comprises
30 a storage layer and a barrier layer and the carrier is arranged such that the
storage layer faces the take-up reel and the barrier layer faces away from the
take-up reel.

6. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the scent material transfer device comprises a plurality of scent material transfer devices associated with respective portions of the scent receiving location.

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7. An apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the scent material comprises a plurality of different scent materials, the apparatus further comprising:

a plurality of scent material reservoirs respectively connected to the plurality of scent material transfer devices.

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8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the scent material transfer device sprays droplets of scent material onto the carrier.

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9. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the scent material dispersal device drives air through the scent delivery location.

10. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
a housing, in which the carrier, the scent material transfer device,
and the scent material dispersal device are located, including an outlet;
wherein the scent material dispersal device drives air through the scent delivery location and through the outlet.

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11. A method of providing an olfactory experience in an area, comprising the steps of:

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moving a first portion of scent material carrier to a receiving location;

transferring scent material to the first portion of the scent material carrier at the receiving location;

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moving the first portion of the scent material carrier to a delivery location; and

forcing at least some of the scent material off of the first portion of the scent carrier, and into the area, at the delivery location.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising the step of:
5 moving the first portion of the scent material carrier to a storage location after the step of forcing at least some of the scent material off of the first portion of the scent carrier.

13. A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the scent material
10 carrier includes a storage layer and a barrier layer and the step of moving the first portion of the scent material carrier to a storage location comprises moving the first portion of the scent material carrier to a storage location in such a manner that the barrier layer isolates the storage layer from the delivery location.

15 14. A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the scent material carrier is mounted on a supply reel and a take-up reel and the steps of moving the first portion of the scent material carrier comprises rotating the supply and take-up reels.

20 15. A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the step of transferring scent material to the first portion of the scent material carrier comprises spraying scent material onto the first portion of the scent material carrier.

25 16. A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the step of forcing at least some of the scent material off of the first portion of the scent carrier comprises driving air over the first portion of the scent material carrier.

30 17. A method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising the steps of:
moving a second portion of scent material carrier to the receiving location;

transferring cleansing scent material to the second portion of the scent material carrier at the receiving location;

moving the second portion of the scent material carrier to a delivery location after the first portion of the scent material carrier has left the delivery location; and

forcing at least some of the cleansing scent material off of the first portion of the scent carrier, and into the area, at the delivery location.

18. An apparatus for delivering scent material, comprising:
a housing defining a first storage location, a receiving location, a delivery location and a second storage location;

means, located within the housing, for carrying scent material;
means for moving portions of the means for carrying scent material from the first storage location, to the receiving location, to the delivery location, and to the second storage location;

means for transferring scent material to the means for carrying scent material at the receiving location; and

means for driving at least some of the scent material off of the means for carrying scent material and out of the housing at the delivery location.

19. An apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the means for transferring scent material to the means for carrying scent material at the receiving location comprises means for transferring a plurality of scent materials onto a predetermined portion of the means for carrying scent material.

20. An apparatus as claimed in claim 18, further comprising:
means for storing scent material operably connected to the means for transferring scent material to the means for carrying scent material.

21. A scent material carrier device for use in a scent delivery apparatus, the scent material carrier device comprising:
a rotatable take-up reel; and

an elongate scent carrier strip, including a storage layer and a barrier layer, connected to the take-up reel such that rotation of the take-up reel will cause the elongate scent carrier strip to be wound around the take-up reel with the storage layer facing the take-up reel and the barrier layer facing away from the take-up reel.

22. A scent material carrier as claimed in claim 21, wherein the storage layer comprises absorbent material.

23. A scent material carrier as claimed in claim 21, wherein the storage layer comprises paper.

24. A scent material carrier as claimed in claim 21, wherein the barrier layer comprises a plastic film.

25. An apparatus for delivering scent material, comprising:
a housing including a housing outlet;
a scent material dispersal device located within the housing and having an outlet that directs air through the housing outlet; and
a movable scent material carrier including a storage layer on one side configured to store scent material and a barrier layer on another side configured to substantially prevent the passage of scent material therethrough;
the movable scent material carrier be located within the housing and oriented such that the storage layer faces the scent material dispersal device outlet and the barrier layer faces the housing outlet.

26. An apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the storage layer comprises an absorbent material.

27. An apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the storage layer comprises paper.

28. An apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the barrier layer comprises a plastic film.

29. An apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the scent material
5 dispersal device comprises an air pump.

30. An apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein the movable scent material carrier comprises an elongate movable scent material carrier, the apparatus further comprising:
10 a supply reel, located upstream from the scent material dispersal device, that stores unused portions of the elongate movable scent material carrier; and
a take-up reel, located downstream from the scent material dispersal device, that receives used portions of the elongate movable scent
15 material carrier.